Application/Control Number: 09/988,781

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF INVENTION

The invention relates to a skintight elastic sleeve that is reinforced with elastic bands 8 throughout its entire circumference and length as seen in Fig. 1. To be fitted onto appendages, extremities, neck or thorax for achieving complete site compression, protection, and for maintenance of integrity of a medical site or intravenous equipment 9. Whereas the sleeve body 1 and bands 8 are manufactured from a group of elastic, pliable and expendable materials singularly and in combination such as rubber, latex silicone, Gore-Tex, epidermal tissue, smooth muscle tissue, plastic and plastic components that are capable of expanding to 3 times its' original state.

The sleeve is cylindrical in shape with openings at both ends 6 and 7. The body or the sleeve 1 shall be of sufficient thickness (.05mm-5mm) to protect the medical site while maintaining sufficient transparency to view such site without the need to remove the sleeve. The bands 8 around the sleeve shall be of identical material used in the manufacturing of the body 1 of the sleeve so to facilitate the manufacturing process. The body 1 of sleeve and band 8 are of identical diameter and elasticity so as to apply sufficient force for sealing the sleeve end 6 and 7 without inhibiting circulation. Multiple bands 8 are fitted throughout the circumference and entire length of sleeve separated by a distance of 2.54 cm or 1 inch from each other as seen in Fig 3. As an example: If the length of the sleeve was 25.40 cm or 10 inches then there would be a total of 11 bands.

First band 8 would initiate at end 6. The second band would be 2.54 cm or 1 inch from the first and each consecutive band would be 2.54 cm from the previous until the final and eleventh band terminated on end 7. If the length of the sleeve was 20 inches then there would be twice as many bands 8. (Band 8, Fig. 4, end 7 and 7 are manufactured by creating a lip 9 and folding 1 cm of the sleeves body 1 upon itself and adhering it with either heat or an elastic adhesive). The bands 8 between the ends 6 and 7 are manufactured by (pinching or) collecting 2 cm of body 1 material around the entire circumference of the sleeve and then folding and adhering the material back onto the body 1 as shown in Fig. 6 B, C. (The band 8 doubles the thickness of the sleeve body as shown in Fig 6 C, 10). The band 8 prohibits the sleeve from loosing its integrity if punctured or damaged. The elastic body 1 will no longer be able to tear and destroy the integrity of the entire sleeve and site.

In storage the sleeve is outwardly rolled upon itself to form a lightweight elastic ring. Method of installation is that of first securing medical site with intravenous medical procedures, cleaning, medications etc. Then stretching the elastic ring over extremity and onto the site to be protected. You then unroll the I.V. sleeve out from itself and onto and over the medical site. This finalizes the installation process.